

## "Amor"



There are some students who arrive at new schools, and their very presence changes the atmosphere and makes teachers want to be even better teachers. Amor is one of those students. Since entering her new class more than a year ago, her teachers have watched her grow, mature, and find the inner strength to face each day. Amor's enthusiasm and the "wow's" she frequently expresses are what makes her teachers want to come up with new ways to "wow" everyone in their classes.

While Amor still had bouts of depression, rebellion, and frustration, her maturity came from being a new mother. Between separation anxiety from being away from her family and teenage angst, she had some trouble finding her balance. Through it all, she always managed to try her best in school and managed to endure a very unstable and chaotic environment. She found school to be an escape from her thoughts and a way to better herself.

Amor set goals for herself and accomplished them while finding new ways to generate hope. She wanted to achieve Honor Roll, and she achieved it every month. When introduced to a bi-level Honor Roll, with the highest reward being the Principal's List, she went on to also attain that each month. She wanted to pass her General Educational Development (GED) examination, and after a rough first attempt, she passed it with flying colors the second time. She has wanted to maintain a loving relationship with her daughter, and each month she finds new ways to communicate and share her love.

Amor refuses to allow others to dictate her behavior and influence her goals. Even in a harsh environment, she maintains a high level of enthusiasm for learning and life. What is so extraordinary about Amor is the way she is always telling someone how special they are to her. She's learned to reach out to others, to be giving, caring, understanding, reflective, and, most of all, hopeful for the future. By and large, she has helped everyone who surrounds her to be better teachers and people.